

Message Text

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53

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00 IOE-00

SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 SCCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 DHA-02 ACDA-07 SAM-01 /108 W

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O R 071620Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8734

INFO USMISSION USUN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEHJASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY PARI E

AMEMBASSYIINE

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY PEKING

C O N F I D I Q N T I A L BUCHAREST 3988

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, IFL, UG,RO

SUBJECT: ROMANIAN GOVERNMENT REACTION TO ISRAELI ACTION
IN UGANDA

REF : (A) STATE 166529; (B) STATE 79:345

1. SUMMARY. IN MEETING RELATING TO ISRAEL'S ACTION IN
UGANDA, GOR SPOKESMAN APPRECIATED U.S.' POSITION AGAINST
TERRORISM AND IN FAVOR OF BALANCE, BUT MAINTAINED THAT
ISRAEL'S VIOLATION OF UGANDA'S TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY WAS
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PRIMARY ISSUE AND INTIMATED GOR SUPPORT FOR ANTI-ISRAELI

RESOLUTION IN UNSC. END SUMMARY.

2. AS PER REFTTEL A, EMBASSY POLITICAL COUNSELOR INFORMED MFA JURIDICAL DIRECTORATE COUNSELOR GHEORGHE SAULESCU OF USG INTENTION TO OPPOSE ONE-SIDED UGANDA-OR OAU-SPONSORED RESOLUTION IN UNSC CONDEMNING ISRAEL AND/OR KENYA REGARDING ISRAELI RESCUE OPERATION. GOR WAS INFORMED THAT USG WOULD SPONSOR BALANCED RESOLUTION CONDEMNING "ALL STATES WHICH FAILED TO ACT VIGOROUSLY AGAINST TERRORIST ACTS."

3. SAULESCU SAID THAT GOR CONDEMNS ANY ATTACK BY ONE STATE AGAINST TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF ANOTHER STATE, AND SUPPORTS ABSOLUTELY NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY AND INDEPENDENCE "WITHOUT REGARD TO THE PRETEXTS" OF THE ATTACKING STATE. USG POSITION WITH REGARD TO INTER-NATIONAL LAW AND TREATIES ON TERRORISM WERE RECOGNIZED, AND USG WAS WELL AWARE OF ROMANIAN VIEW THAT TERRORISM IS "NEGATIVE ACT AGAINST INTERNATIONAL EXISTENCE." HOWEVER, GOR COULD FIND NO EXCUSE OR JUSTIFICATION FOR ISRAEL'S "DANGEROUS" ACTION.

4. ASKED TO WHAT EXTENT GOR COULD SUPPORT GENERAL RESOLUTION AGAINST TERRORISM CONSISTENT WITH 1972 TERRORISM CONVENTION, SAULESCU STATED THAT QUESTIONS OF VIOLATION OF SOVEREIGNTY AND TERRORISM WERE TWO SEPARATE PROBLEMS. AND THAT UN ALREADY HAD COMMITTEE ON TERRORISM. SAULESCU ASKED WHETHER UGANDA WAS SIGNATORY TO 1972 TREATY, STATING THAT NO COUNTRY CAN BE COMMITTED TO A PRINCIPLE OF INTER-NATIONAL LAW WITHOUT ITS CONSENT. UNIVERSALLY ACCEPTED DEFINITION OF "TERRORIST ACT" DID NOT EXIST. HE INTIMATED THAT WESTERN COUNTRIES HAD RECENTLY APPLAUDED SOVIET JEWISH HIJACKING OF SOVIET PLANE IN LENINGRAD. EMBOFF DID NOT KNOW WHETHER UGANDA HAD ADHERED TO 1972 TREATY, BUT REITERATED TOTAL U.S. OPPOSITION TO HIJACKING FROM ANY SOURCE. SAULESCU THEN ASKED IF U.S. COULD SUPPORT "BALANCED" RESOLUTION WHICH CONDEMNED BOTH VIOLATION OF NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY AND TERRORIST ACTIONS. EMBOFF REPLIED THAT BALANCE WAS INTENTION OF U.S. SPONSORED RESOLUTION, BUT THAT GOR COULD

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NOT SUPPORT ANY RESOLUTION WHICH MADE SPECIFIC CONDEMNATIONS OR WHICH PLACED INCIDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY SOLELY ON ONE PARTY.

5. ##

OF UGANDA PRESIDENT

AMIN'S ASSISTANCE TO OR ACCEPTANCE OF TERRORISTS. EMBOFF
RESPONDE POSITIVELY AND OPINED THAT EVIDENCE OF ACCEPTANCE
WAS CERTAIN WHILE THAT OF ASSISTANCE WAS ONLY PROBABLE.
SAULESCU DECLINED OUR OFFER OF ##

6. COMMENT. GOR SPOKESMAN MADE IT CLEAR THAT CONDEMNATION
OF TERRORISM ## ISSUE IN COMPARISON WITH ABSOLUTE
SUPPORT NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY.
GOR DOES NOT RELISH POSITION OF SUPPORT FOR AMIN AND
TERRORISTS AND OPEN CONDEMNATION OF ISRAEL, BUT ## SEEKING TO
INGRATiate ITSELF WITH LDC'S--WILL PROBABLY GO
ALONG WITH ANTI-ISRAELI RESOLUTION IF TABLED IN UNSC.
BARNES

NOTE BY OCT: ## OMISSIONS; CORRECTION TO FOLLOW.

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NNN

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